

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Claims 1-5 have been amended¹. Claims 1-5 are pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) – Taira

Claims 1-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Taira (U.S. Patent Number 6,415,098)². The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claim 1, Applicants' claimed invention relates to a title selecting device for an information reproducing apparatus, "wherein image information of one or more images and title recording information including a title corresponding to said image information are recorded in a disk, and titles corresponding to the image information recorded in the disk are displayed in a title image on a display section, and one of the displayed titles is selected, and the image information corresponding to the selected title is read from the disk and displayed on the display section." The title selecting device comprises

a title image recording section storing the title image;
a title recording section storing the title recording information read
from the disk;
read means for reading a typical image corresponding to the selected
title when a preview command is entered; and

¹ Support for the claim amendments is found in the specification on at least page 3, lines 4-22, page 7, lines 24-27, page 16, lines 15-25 and FIG. 1.

² Applicant notes that Taira does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

display means for displaying the read typical image superimposed on said title image displayed on the display section.

Taira does not disclose every element of the claimed invention. Taira discloses only title screen data generated by multi-layering additional image information as sub-image data, which is to be superposed on a title screen of a program, only main image data which forms the title screen (column 3, lines 55-61). Taira reads and displays all title screens which are registered and stored in an optical disk. Taira displays of all title screens as a user selection menu on a monitor, or alternatively arranges a plurality of screens in a multi-screen configuration, each of the plurality of screens containing four title screens (column 8, lines 1-22). A user of Taira's system selects a desired title screen from the user selection menu, resulting in a system CPU (17) reproducing a program corresponding to the selected title screen (column 8, lines 29-35).

In contrast, Applicants' claimed invention recites a title selecting device, "wherein image information of one or more images and title recording information including a title corresponding to said image information are recorded in a disk." Furthermore, "titles corresponding to the image information recorded in the disk are displayed in a title image on a display section, and one of displayed titles is selected, and the image information corresponding to the selected title is read from the disk and displayed on the display section."

Although the Examiner refers to Taira's title screen for showing data images, Taira's title screen is different from, and does not teach or suggest the title image of the exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention, in which titles corresponding to the image information recorded in the disk are displayed in the title image such that the title image is used in the selecting of data by title. Taira further does not display a read typical image *superimposed* on

the title image. Instead, Taira only displays all title screens as a user selection menu, and upon selection of a title screen, Taira reproduces a program corresponding to the title screen selected (column 8, lines 29-35). The title screen is terminated, and the reproduced program is then started. Therefore, there Taira does not superimpose a read typical image on the title image displayed on the display section, as claimed. Although Taira does display all title screens as the user selection menu, this displaying procedure does not teach or suggest the display of a read typical image superimposed on the title image, *the read typical image corresponding to the selected title when a preview command is entered.*

In addition, claim 1, as amended, also recites “a title image recording section storing the title image; [and] a title recording section storing the title recording information read from the disk.”

Taira’s image reproducing apparatus therefore does not teach or suggest the displaying of titles in a title image (the titles corresponding to image information), selection of a displayed title, and displaying a read typical image (corresponding to the selected title) superimposed on the title image, as claimed.

At least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, the invention defined by Applicants’ claim 1 is patentable over Taira. Applicants’ claims 2-5 are dependent claims including all of the elements of independent claim 1, which as established above, distinguishes over Taira. Therefore, claims 2-5 are distinguished over Taira for at least the aforementioned reasons as well as for their additionally recited features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are respectfully requested.

With further regards to claim 2, “said typical image is superimposed on said title image at the same magnifying power as that of the image information recorded in said disk.” Taira does not superimpose the typical image on the title image at the same magnifying power as that of the image information recorded in the disk, because, as discussed above, Taira does not superimpose the reproduced program on the title screen due to the title screen being terminated prior to reproduction of the program. At least by virtue of the aforementioned differences as well as for these additional reasons, the claimed invention is patentable over Taira.

With further regards to claim 3, “an address on said disk, in which the image information for generating said typical image is recorded, is previously stored corresponding to each title at said title recording section as the title recording information read from the disk, and said typical image is acquired based on the image information by reading said image information at said address previously recorded for each title.” Taira fails to teach or suggest the aforementioned differences, as well as these additionally claimed elements. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/921,715

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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